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Agenda item 53

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Peru, Sweden, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

Confidence-building measures in outer space

The General Assembly,

Conscious of the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Recalling that, in accordance with the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 1/ the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind,

Aware of the fact that more and more States are taking an active interest in outer space or participating in important space programmes for the exploration and exploitation of that environment,

Recognizing, in this context, the relevancy space has gained as an important factor for the socio-economic development of many States, in addition to its undeniable role in security issues,

Emphasizing that the growing use of outer space has increased the need for more transparency as well as confidence-building measures,

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1/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

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Recalling that the international community has unanimously recognized the importance and usefulness of confidence-building measures, which can significantly contribute to the promotion of peace and security and disarmament, in particular through General Assembly resolutions 43/78 H of 7 December 1988 and 44/116 U of 15 December 1989,

Noting the important work being carried out by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space of the Conference on Disarmament, which contributes to identifying potential areas of confidence-building measures,

Aware of the existence of a number of different proposals and initiatives addressing this subject, which attest to a growing convergence of views,

1. Reaffirms the importance of confidence-building measures as means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

2. Recognizes their applicability in the space environment under specific criteria yet to be defined;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to carry out, with the assistance of government experts, a study on the specific aspects related to the application of different confidence-building measures in outer space, including the different technologies available, possibilities for defining appropriate mechanisms of international co-operation in specific areas of interest, etc., and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.